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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/367,580	08/17/1999	KLAUS GRADISCHNIG	P991527	4526

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EXAMINER

PHAN, MAN U

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2665

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/367,580

Applicant(s)
Gradischnig

Examiner
Man Phan

Art Unit
2665



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 17, 1999
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 3 20) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

1. The application of Gradischnig for "A node which supports enhanced links for transferring longer messages than according to current MTP level 2" filed 08/17/1999 has been examined. This application is a 371 of PCT/EP98/00877 filed 02/16/1998. The preliminary amendment has been entered and made of record. Claim 7-12 are pending in the application.

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in FED REP GERMANY - 97102527.5 on 02/17/1997. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

3. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

4. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Christie et al. (US#5,926,482) in view of Clarke et al. (US#5,550,914).

With respect to claim 7, Christie discloses an enhanced signal transfer point (STP) applies message transfer part (MTP) functions to signaling message that contain point codes. A signaling system in accordance with the present invention comprising first and second signaling point codes, wherein the second point code is used to identify functions and MTP users (See Figs. 4-6, Col. 4, lines 8-29). Christie further teaches in Fig. 3 an SS7 broadband message functionality in which the same MTP network handles the physical/ electrical transport of signaling messages on the same individual links (Col. 6, lines 49-56).

However, Christie does not expressly disclose wherein the second point code is used to make full use of the longer and unsegmented message length. In the same field of endeavor, Clarke et al. teaches in Fig. 3 illustrated the general form of a signal unit used

for transferring information across links in an SS7 network in which the MSU carry all service/application data sent on the SS7 network is up to 273 octets maximum (Col. 6, lines 50-53). SS7 was developed to allow high-speed communications between telephone exchanges before and during call setup, and one of the primary characteristics of broadband SS7 message is the longer message size, allowing more of data.

Regarding claim 10, this claim differs from the claim above in that the point codes being part of different MTP networks but not the same MTP networks. However, Christie further discloses in Fig. 2 a basic relationship of a telecommunications network including a signaling system that is linked to signaling point in other network elements. Other types of signaling points are equally applicable to the present invention. For example, the above referenced signaling processors can function as signaling points. In addition, other signaling systems, such as C7 signaling, are equally applicable to the present invention (Col. 5, lines 51-60).

Regarding claims 8 and 11, Christie discloses the MTP routing tables supporting the enhanced links, wherein the routing tables are structured such that routing between nodes with the second point code uses only the enhanced link (Fig. 5; Col. 8, lines 21-30).

Regarding claims 9 and 12, Christies further teaches the Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) function which "uses" the MTP to transfer signaling messages over the signaling links of the SS7 network so that the User Part may process information required by the switches. The SCCP functions engineered such that primary translation is to be logical destinations reachable via links based on MTP level 2 if translation results in a physical destination located in a node supporting the enhanced links (Col. 6, lines 5-24).

Christie teaches in Fig. 4 depicted Signaling Network 300 (level 3 functionality) further includes Signaling Message Handling 310 which ensures that messages from User Part 400 (such as the Integrated Service User Part (ISUP), the Telephone User Part (TUP), the Transaction Capabilities Application Part (TCAP), and the Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP)) are delivered to the proper destination primarily according to a routing label contained in the message. Signal Message Handling 310 is comprised of Discrimination 312, Routing 314, and Distribution 316. STPs are concerned with being able to route SS7 messages within the signaling network to the appropriate signaling points in switches and SCPs. The STP employs MTP processing to accomplish this function. In addition, the STP can employ signaling connection control part (SCCP) logic to facilitate routing. SCCP allows signaling message routing based on logical connections. For example, a signaling message requesting a dialed number translation can be sent to the STP itself. SCCP would provide the STP with the point code for the appropriate database that could accommodate the translation (See Fig. 4; Col. 6, lines 14-24).

One skilled in the art would have recognized the need for effectively and efficiently transferring message using the signaling point codes in the broadband telecommunications system, and would have applied Clarke' novel use of the signal unit used for transferring information across links in an SS7 network into Christie's teaching of the enhanced signal transfer point which alters the point codes in telecommunications signaling. Therefore, It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to apply Clarke's communications signaling network apparatus into Christie's telecommunications apparatus, system, and method with an enhanced signal

transfer point with the motivation being to provide a node which supports enhanced links for transferring longer messages than according to current MTP level 2.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The Gardner et al. (US#6,023,474) is cited to show the broadband telecommunications system interface.

The Christie et al. (US#6,081,525) is cited to show the broadband telecommunications system.

The Christie et al. (US#6,115,380) is cited to show the broadband telecommunications system.

The Hiller et al. (US#5,327,421) is cited to show the apparatus for interfacing between telecommunications call signals and broadband signals.

The Michelson (US#5,481,673) is cited to show the method for cluster routing in direct link using two associated routing tables at node or signaling transfer point.

The Christie et al. (US#6,181,703) is cited to show the system for managing telecommunications.

The Lewis (US#6,175,574) is cited to show the technique for providing an improved signaling network for telephone systems.

The Glitho (US#5,544,154) is cited to show the method for determining the load

induced by a routing verification test on a network.

The Gradischnig (US#5,748,636) is cited to show the method for transmitting signaling information within a broadband ISDN communication network.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Phan whose telephone number is (703)305-1029. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri from 6:30 to 3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (703) 308-6602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)305-3988.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

8. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: (703) 305-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or: (703) 305-3988 (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Mphan

02/27/2002.

